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FSUM 10302  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Robert A. Holton et al.  
Serial No. 09/063,477  
Filed April 20, 1998  
For PROCESS FOR SELECTIVE DERIVATIZATION OF TAXANES  
Examiner Ba K. Trinh

Art Unit 1612

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(3mo) + A  
c/m  
12-28-99

December 28, 1999

AMENDMENT A

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS,

SIR:

In response to the office action dated June 28, 1999 please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 29 through 45.

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested of the restriction of the claims of Group I (claims 1-28) from the claims of Group II (claims 29-36) and from the claims of Group III (claims 37-45).

According to MPEP 803, "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct and independent inventions." In this instance, the subject matter of the Group I, Group II and Group III claims is sufficiently related that examination of all three groups together would not appear to impose a "serious burden."

Subject to the foregoing traverse, Applicants affirm the provisional election made with traverse on June 18, 1999 to prosecute the invention of group I, claims 1-28.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by claims 1-18 of U.S. Patent 5,874,595 Damen et al. (the Damen patent) is